

# THE INVADER

- Dr. Newberry spotted kudzu
- A total of five infestations in the preserve
  - Killing trees
  - Over running
    - Entrance
    - Creek and branch areas
    - Smothering and destroying vegetation



# KUDZU INVADER (*Pueraria montana* var. *lobata*)





# **KUDZU, A LEGUME, IS AN INVASIVE PLANT**

- Invasive species:
  - Are not native to the US
  - Thrive in our climate
  - Have few or no natural predators
  - Grow rapidly
  - Overrun native plants



# **KUDZU AT PETER'S CREEK**

## **“The vine that ate the South”**





# THE KUDZU PROBLEM MAY BE WORSE THAN WE THOUGHT

- In late 2006 Dr. Gill Newberry discovered **peach scale** (*Pseudaulacaspis pentagona*) over-wintering on kudzu in Peter's Creek Preserve



# OVER-WINTERING ON KUDZU





# MAGNIFICATION OF THE PEACH SCALE INSECT ON KUDZU SURFACE



# **CLEMSON REPORT:**

This is the first finding in South Carolina of peach scale over-wintering on kudzu

World wide, peach scale is the most damaging pest on many peach farms



# KUDZU'S THREE PROBLEMS

1. Lots of it, no natural controls
2. Apathy: Many think nothing can be done except spray with herbicides
3. The environment is sensitive and use of chemicals can be a problem